



OT 79000694

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS
DIVISION DIRECTOR

February 27, 2019

National Park Service
Attn: Alexis Abernathy
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C St, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Main Building at the Male Camp, State Prison Farm at Milledgeville (Old State Prison Building);
Milledgeville, Baldwin County

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

We are requesting removal from the National Register of Historic Places of the above-referenced property in Baldwin County, Georgia. The property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. Please see the enclosed newspaper article referencing its demolition. The property owner and local officials have been notified and did not comment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

V/r

Dr. David Crass
Historic Preservation Division Director/Deputy SHPO

cc: Lisa Deline, NPS

Enclosures: Hobbs, Billy. "Crews Tear down Old Prison in Baldwin County." *Union Recorder*, 6 Aug. 2018.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 3/12/2019 Date of Pending List: 4/1/2019 Date of 16th Day: 4/16/2019 Date of 45th Day: 4/26/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:


Nominator:

Reason For Review:

☒ Accept ☐ Return ☐ Reject 4/26/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer  Control Unit

Discipline

Telephone

Date 4/26/2018

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAY 30 1978

DATE ENTERED

MAY 8 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Main Building at the Male Camp, State Prison Farm at Milledgeville

AND/OR COMMON

Old State Prison Building *use this*

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Georgia Highway 22,
approximately 3 miles west of Milledgeville *(4.8 miles)*

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Milledgeville *mic.*

— VICINITY OF

8th - Billy Evans

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Georgia

13

Baldwin

009 ✓

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

— DISTRICT

— PUBLIC

— OCCUPIED

— AGRICULTURE

— MUSEUM

— BUILDING(S)

☒ PRIVATE☒ UNOCCUPIED

— COMMERCIAL

— PARK

☒ STRUCTURE

— BOTH

— WORK IN PROGRESS

— EDUCATIONAL

— PRIVATE RESIDENCE

— SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

— ENTERTAINMENT

— RELIGIOUS

— OBJECT

— IN PROCESS

— YES: RESTRICTED

— GOVERNMENT

— SCIENTIFIC

— BEING CONSIDERED

— YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ INDUSTRIAL

— TRANSPORTATION

— NO

— MILITARY

— OTHER: Warehouse

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

J. P. Stevens Company ✓

STREET & NUMBER

Georgia Highway 22

CITY, TOWN

Milledgeville

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Baldwin County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Milledgeville

STATE

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Baldwin County by W. G. Moffat

DATE

1976

— FEDERAL ☒ STATE — COUNTY — LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Section

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☐ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☒ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The main building at the State Prison Farm in Milledgeville is a two-story ferro-concrete structure, faced with brick. Two rear projecting wings, used for cells, make the building a "U" shape. The principal facade faces south.

A projecting, two-story portico, with brick columns on each story is placed on the center line of the south facade. The south elevation itself is divided into three visual parts by a slightly projecting center portion. The main entrance is on the second story, approached by concrete steps. The porch floor is concrete, the porch roof is wood and terminates at the eave line in arches supported by the brick columns. The first story windows are squareheaded, but three windows on either side of the entrance are arched, further defining the projecting center portion. The front door is enframed in an arched transom and sidelights. The glass areas of this entrance way are divided into very small square panes.

The annual report of the prison commissioners for 1924 states that new porch and steps were placed on the main building, but the report does not state whether these were entirely new or merely repairs to an existing unit.

The original use of the interior rooms was printed in the Milledgeville Union Recorder on January 31, 1911, and was as follows: "The first or ground floor will be used for a dining room and kitchen, boiler room and guard room. The dining room will be 42' x 200', well lighted and ventilated and large enough to seat 200 prisoners. The kitchen will be large, well arranged, with a back oven, pantry and store room, and a small track in the floor so that meals can be served on roller trays.

"The second or main floor will be used for the offices and guards, with ample hospital space for white and colored prisoners, separate. The lodging hall is 42' x 200' and is so arranged that it will comfortably accomodate 250 prisoners and will be fitted with the latest improved bunks. The front of the building will be 137' x 56' with the long dormitory extending 310' x 62'."

Concrete and brick are used throughout as materials. The walls are plastered and there are remnants of frescos in the former cells painted by inmates. Among those remaining are a whale, cartoon figures, scenics, houses, and crucifixion and other religious scenes. These paintings are rapidly deteriorating in the damp atmosphere. Today there is evidence that there were cells in both wings, upstairs and down, at one time. They appear extremely small, 10' x 14', perhaps speaking to the overcrowded conditions mentioned in later reports. All partitions and fixtures have been removed today and the building is crudely reinforced by steel "I" beams and it is now used as a warehouse by the J. P. Stevens Company, a worsted manufacturer.

After the legislature declared electrocution legal in Georgia, part of the basement was converted to death chambers. The room where, presumably, these electrocutions took place (first story) bears a window with dates carved in the frame, 1925, 1928, etc. and there are over 50 notches on the frame, a macabre tally of the effectiveness of the chair.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 16 1979

DATE ENTERED MAY 8 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

Amendment

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 4

U. S. Bureau of Prisons, Handbook of Correctional Institution Design and Construction, 1949.

Walden, Mary P., "History of the Georgia Penitentiary at Milledgeville, 1817-1868" Thesis, Georgia State University, 1974.

Prepared By:

Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian
Richard Cloues, Architectural Historian
Steve Hensen, Researcher
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Natural Resources
270 Washington Street, S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

April 5, 1979

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon, Ph.D., Chief
Historic Preservation Section
Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

4/4/79
Date

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

Penal Institutions

SPECIFIC DATES

1911

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

A. C. Bruce

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main building at the Male Camp of the State Prison Farm at Milledgeville is important historically for its role in the famous Mary Phagan murder case, and that it housed the first electric chair in Georgia.

In 1911, the State Prison Commission erected a new prison building to replace a burned structure at the State Farm near Milledgeville. Plans were drawn by architect A. C. Bruce of Atlanta. Work began in March of 1911. The contractor for the building was a Mr. Bryce. An article in the Milledgeville Union Recorder dated March 7, 1911, stated that the building was expected to meet the needs of the state for the next 100 years. It barely did for 30.

Leo M. Frank was superintendent of a pencil factory in Atlanta. On April 27, 1913, Mary Phagan, a young girl employed in the factory, was found dead in the basement of the plant. Frank was accused of the crime, arrested and convicted; but many were of the opinion that the evidence was insufficient to support the conviction. While the case dragged on, twenty-five armed men, only two wearing masks, entered the State Penitentiary at Milledgeville and abducted Leo Frank. He was hanged by this mob near Marietta. This action of mob violence focused national attention on Georgia at the time. After the investigation, Governor Harris reported, "The Penitentiary was not built to keep people out, but to keep them in when put there."

Electric Chair: The 1924 Annual Report of the Superintendent of the State Prison Farm states:

"The adoption by the Legislature of electrocution as a legal method of inflicting the death penalty in Georgia resulted in the installation of the electric chair here (1924). It was necessary to remodel the basement of this camp to establish a death chamber and a room containing two death cells constructed of saw-proof steel. The actual chair was constructed by inmates. There has been one execution during the year, that of a Negro, and it went forward with a minimum of confusion and delay."

By 1932, 85 inmates had died in the electric chair. No one was more affected by these deaths than the Chaplain of the institution, who wrote in 1930 that "163 services have been held in the gloom of the 'Death Cells' with condemned men, sent here to be electrocuted." In 1923, the State Farm Religious Association had been established and was "A company of men and women banded together to study the word of God, pray together, and help each other work out their salvation" (Chaplain's Report). The conversions reported each year in the Chaplain's annual reports are

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Annual Reports of the Prison Commission of Georgia, 1919-1942, various publishers,
Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.
Savannah Morning News, April 4, 1917.
Milledgeville Union Recorder: January 31, 1911, March 7, 1911, March 28, 1911,
July 25, 1911.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 3 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Browns Crossing

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 287640 3663860

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary shall be formed by a line that connects points determined to be 50 feet from any and all exterior walls of the structure.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Beth Lattimore Reiter, Historic Preservation Planner, Savannah, Georgia
Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historical Researcher, Historic Preservation Section

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Preservation Section

December 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

270 Washington Street, S. W.

(404) 656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Atlanta

Georgia 30334

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

TITLE

Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 5/16/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 5-8-79

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE May 3, 1979

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED MAY 30 1978

DATE ENTERED MAY 8 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

colorfully evident in the flaking paint of frescos painted by inmates along the cell walls - crucifixion and other religious scenes are mingled with remnants of more secular subjects.

By 1935, the prison was overcrowded with over two-thirds of its inmates disabled and unable to work on the farm. There were not sufficient provisions to meet the needs of the great number of inmates. Soon, Reidsville Prison was opened and the old State Prison Farm was gradually abandoned. Today, the main building stands as a grim reminder of an era of lynchings, racial hatred, chain gangs, and its electric chair - a crude, wire affair, hand-made by the inmates.

Alexander C. Bruce (Sketch taken from Atlanta Architecture, The Victorian Heritage, 1837-1918. Dr. Elizabeth A. Lyon, Atlanta Historical Society, 1976.)

The architect for the State Prison Farm, Alexander C. Bruce (1835-1927) was Atlanta's first member of the American Institute of Architects. "Born in Fredericksburg, Virginia, Bruce trained in the Nashville, Tennessee office of an English architect, H. M. Akeroid. In 1864 he began his own practice in Knoxville and in 1873 was elected to associate membership in the AIA. He came to Atlanta in 1879 to form a partnership with W. H. Parkins, and the two participated in designing many public buildings in Georgia. In later partnership with T. H. Morgan, he was responsible for business buildings in High Victorian Gothic, Renaissance, Romanesque, and other revival styles, as well as buildings in the more utilitarian 'Commercial Style'."

Among the buildings by Bruce and Morgan in Atlanta are: Concordia Hall (1893), Prudential Building (1898), Empire Building (1901), All Saints Episcopal Church (1903); In Savannah: National Bank Building (1903).

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RECEIVED APR 16 1979

DATE ENTERED

MAY 8 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

AMENDMENT

OLD STATE PRISON BUILDING
MILLEDGEVILLE, BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Significance:

The Old State Prison Building/Main Building at the Male Camp, State Prison Farm (whose building history has been covered in the Significance section of the original nomination) was one of a series of state-owned and operated penal institutions of the Georgia Prison System and the last one built in the Milledgeville, Georgia area. The building is significant in architecture and history, in the latter especially as the site where the electric chair was introduced in Georgia.

The Georgia prison system began in 1816 when the first state-owned and operated prison building was built in Milledgeville, then the state capitol. This site where the state prison was located from 1816 through the early 1870's is now a part of the Georgia College main campus.

When the first prisoners arrived in 1817, it marked a change in Georgia's penal history. Prior to this time, the county sheriffs controlled all prisoners. In 1831, the original facility was burned and the state penitentiary system was temporarily in abeyance due to a brief repeal of the law of 1816. After the system was reinstated, a new fireproof facility was built employing the Baltimore pattern of confinement, also known as the Auburn System of Discipline. This meant that the prisoners worked during the day in silence and were kept in solitary confinement at night. Another fire in 1843 destroyed the wooden buildings, but the fireproof ones remained and were expanded. These were being used for war efforts at the time of another fire, November 23, 1864, as the Federal troops of General W. T. Sherman were arriving. However, it is felt the prisoners, not the Federal troops, set the fire. There was always a continuing political battle against a state penal system and after the fires of 1831 and 1864 there was a great deal of opposition to rebuilding the prison. The opposition desired to return to the county jail system.

The prison in Milledgeville was repaired during 1866-68 after a long debate in the State Legislature. Other means of dealing with prisoners were devised. The county chain gang and the convict lease systems were authorized in 1866. The contract lease system was implemented during Reconstruction under the military governor of 1868. The penitentiary itself was leased in 1869 for two years to a private firm which had contracted for the prisoners under the lease system.

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DATE ENTERED	MAY 8 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET Amendment ITEM NUMBER PAGE 2

In 1870, a state committee investigated the building's condition and management. There were only a few convicts left and, in 1874, the state housing and maintenance of prisoners was ended by the new civilian-run legislature when they eliminated all state prison officials except the keeper and provided for all convicts to be hired by private citizens under the convict lease system.

After this, the building began to be destroyed piecemeal, as bricks were used in various local projects including the state mental hospital and bridges. At some time, the remains were removed and between 1889-1891 the Georgia Normal and Industrial College (later Georgia State College for Women, now Georgia College) was built on the site in central Milledgeville.

It was not until 1897 that the state once again returned to maintaining a state prison when a prison farm was established two miles from Milledgeville. The State Prison Commission was created at this time to manage the prison farm and the leased convicts. After the convict lease system ended in 1908, the prisoners were once again centrally incarcerated in a state facility. This return to centralization necessitated the building of the present, nominated structure in 1911 to house the overflow of prisoners who had been under contract but were then returned to state control and to replace a temporary structure that had burned.

In 1924, the electric chair was installed for capital crimes and thus all executions (which until then had been conducted at the local level, regardless of whether the prisoner was in the state prison or not) were conducted at this facility.

This facility (the nominated property) served until 1937 when the state took possession of the new, federal-built state prison at Reidsville, Georgia. After being abandoned as a prison, this facility was used as a warehouse by later owners, including the present ones, the J. P. Stevens Company.

The Old State Prison Building is thus the only remaining state-built prison facility in Georgia, the current state prison having been built by the federal government. All other state-built penal institutions from the nineteenth century have been demolished. In the history of Georgia's penal system, this building was the site of the installation and first use of the electric chair, the first state-wide execution system in Georgia. It served as the state's execution site for approximately 25 years.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Amendment ITEM NUMBER PAGE 3

The building is a transitional landmark between the old, nineteenth century prison system characterized by poor facilities and harsh conditions with no goals or ideals toward rehabilitation, and the current prison system with its ideals of rehabilitation and better conditions.

The Old State Prison Building at Milledgeville has significance in the history of architecture and planning because it represents (1) the persistence into the twentieth century of nineteenth century ideas about prison planning and (2) the combination of these traditional planning principles with more modern construction practices and more up-to-date styling. The plan of the Old State Prison Building is essentially U-shaped, with an administration section in front and projecting wings which contain individual incarceration cells in the rear. This plan derives from the early nineteenth century "Auburn-Sing Sing" prison plan. The New York State prisons at Auburn (1816-1825) and Mount Pleasant (Sing Sing) (1825-1828) were the prototypes for prison planning in the United States during the next hundred years, and few major prisons built between the 1820's and the 1920's deviated in any significant respects from them. The Old State Prison Building at Milledgeville is evidence of the persistence of this early nineteenth century prison plan into the first decades of the twentieth century. In terms of its engineering, however, the Old State Prison Building is more modern. The building features a reinforced concrete structural system largely sheathed with brick laid in American bond. Although not radically modern, such construction is an advance upon the nineteenth century load-bearing masonry wall and reflects prevailing practices in industrial architecture. Architecturally, the Old State Prison Building is also up-to-date. Its front facade especially, with its multiple-paned round-arched windows, its contrasting keystones, its central portico (now altered from the original), and its red brick with white trim, speaks of the Georgian Revival style so popular in early twentieth century architecture. The sides and rear of the building are essentially utilitarian.

Bibliographical References:

Bonner, James C., "The Georgia Penitentiary at Milledgeville 1817-1874" The Georgia Historical Quarterly, LV(3) Fall, 1971, pp. 303-328.

McKelvey, Blake, American Prisons: A History of Good Intentions, 1977.



5

Old State Prison Building

Main Building at the Male Camp, State
Prison Farm, Milledgeville, Baldwin
County, Georgia

Photographer: David J. Kaminsky

Date: December 1976

Negatives filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Photograph: Rear facade, photographer
facing south

MAY 8 1979 MAY 30 1978 1015

PHOTOGRAPH BY
DAVID J. KAMINSKY FOR
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION
CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN

Old State Prison Bldg - North elevation (1276)

55



Old State Prison Building
Main Building at the Male Camp, State
Prison Farm, Milledgeville, Baldwin
County, Georgia

Photographer: David J. Kaminsky

Date: December 1976

Negatives filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Photograph: Front facade, photographer
facing north

MAY 8 1979 ^{Doc} MAY 30 1978 245

PHOTOGRAPH BY
DAVID J. KAMINSKY FOR
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION
CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN

Old State Prison Bldg. - South facade 12-76



3

Old State Prison Building
Main Building at the Male Camp, State
Prison Farm, Milledgeville, Baldwin
County, Georgia
Photographer: David J. Kaminsky
Date: December 1976
Negatives filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources
Photograph: Portico, on south facade

MAY ^{DOE} 8 1979 MAY 30 1978 345

PHOTOGRAPH BY
DAVID J. KAMINSKY FOR
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION
CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN

Old State Prison Bldg - Portico, South Facade (12-76)



2

Old State Prison Building

Main Building at the Male Camp, State
Prison Farm, Milledgeville, Baldwin
County, Georgia

Photographer: David J. Kaminsky

Date: December 1976

Negatives filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Photograph: Front facade, photographer
facing northeast

MAY ⁸⁰⁰ 8 1979

MAY 30 1978 445

PHOTOGRAPH BY
DAVID J. KAMINSKY FC
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION
CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN

Old State Prison Bldg. looking NE (12-76)



4

Old State Prison Building
Main Building at the Male Camp, State
Prison Farm, Milledgeville, Baldwin
County, Georgia

Photographer: David J. Kaminsky

Date: December 1976

Negatives filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Photograph: East facade, photographer
facing northwest

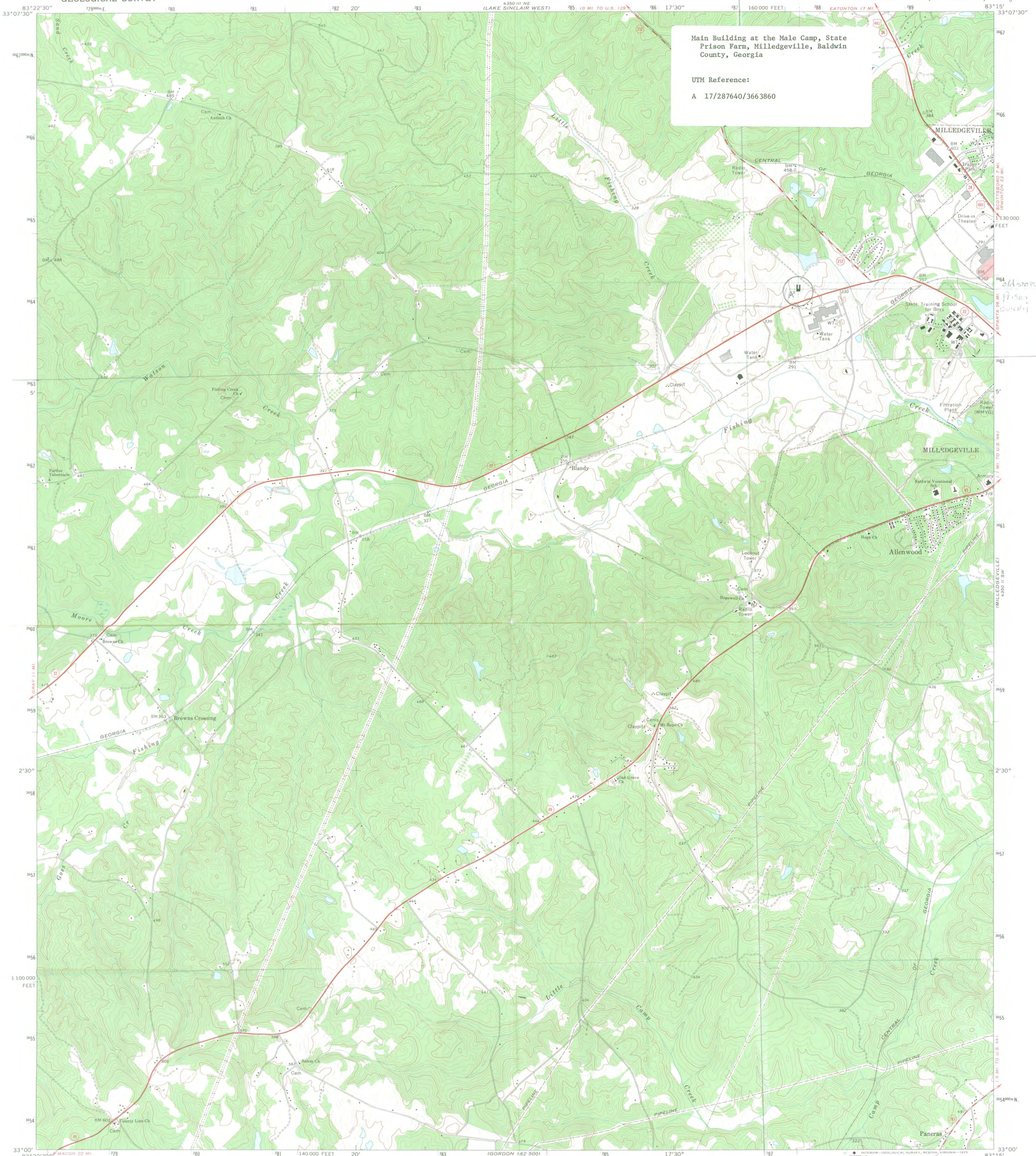
MAY 8 1979
Doe

MAY 30 1978 545

PHOTOGRAPH BY
DAVID J. KAMINSKY FOR
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION
CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN

Old State Prison Bldg. - East facade - looking N.W. (12-76)

4350 III NE
SINCLAIR EAST 17



Main Building at the Male Camp, State
Prison Farm, Milledgeville, Baldwin
County, Georgia

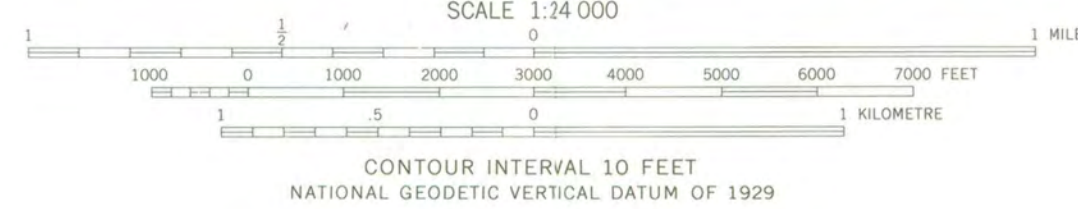
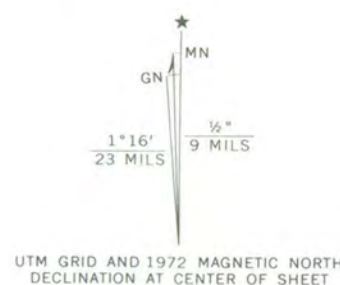
UTM Reference:
A 17/287640/3663860

old stone
bridge

(MILLEDGEVILLE)
4350 II SW

(MILLEDGEVILLE)
1:62,500

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1972
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Georgia coordinate
system, east zone (transverse Mercator)
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 17, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Unimproved road
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
U.S. Route
State Route



BROWNS CROSSING, GA.
N3300—W8315/7.5
1972
AMS 4350 III SE—SERIES V845

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE GEORGIA

Date Entered MAY 8 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Cobb-Treanor House	Athens Clarke County
Dearing, Albin P., House	Athens Clarke County
Thomas-Carithers House	Athens Clarke County
Old State Prison Building	Milledgeville vicinity Baldwin County
Winder Depot	Winder Barrow County

Also Notified

Honorable Sam Nunn
Honorable Herman E. Talmadge
Honorable D. Douglas Barnard
Honorable Bill L. Evans
Honorable Edgar L. Jenkins

Acting State Historic Preservation Officer
Dr. Elizabeth A. Lyon
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Natural Resources
270 Washington Street SW., Room 703-C
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

NR Byers/bjr 5/11/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

Property Old State Prison Building
State Ga. Working Number 5.30.78.3236

TECHNICAL

Photos 5
Maps 1

Needs discussion in context of history of Georgia penal architecture and penal institutions.

CONTROL

OK 6.1.78

HISTORIAN

RETURN 11-16-78

Joe Towner

~~ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN~~

*be abandoned .
Refers to 2nd review*

*Brannan
8.14.78*

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

#8 lacks focus

*Rebecca
Lebowich
11/17/78*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back 11.22.78

Entered _____

Federal Register Entry _____

Re-submit 4.16.79

INT:2106-74

NAME OF PROPERTY Old State Prison Bldg. STATE GA

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

7 Description: 4.16.

8 Statement of Significance: Please provide a discussion of the significance of the property in the context of the history of prison architecture and systems in Georgia.

9 Bibliography: _____

10 Geographical Data -- Acreage: _____

UTM Reference(s): PLEASE NOTE UTM CORRECTIONS

Verbal Boundary Description: _____

12 Certification: _____

Photographic Coverage: _____

Map Coverage: _____

Other: _____

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Joe Towner

on the National Register staff, telephone 202/343-6401

Thank you for your attention to the above items.

Bill Lebovich for _____ Date: Nov 27, 1978
Chief, Branch of Registration

RECEIVED
NOV 28 1978
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

Property Old State Prison Building

79000694

State Ga. (Baldwin)

Working Number 5.30.78.3236

2nd Control

TECHNICAL

Photos 5

Maps 1

CONTROL

OK 4.16.79

HISTORIAN

See #2 of page 3 of memorandum which provides good analysis of significance. Much of the other additional info is not necessary. 1911 prison bldg is historically significant for its place in Georgian penal system and for its illustration of 19th century prison design theory.

ACCEPT
DUBIE 5/2/79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Early 20th century - Georgian revival influenced structure - only 1 of its type remaining in Ga. -
- Outlines "firsts" including 1st use of electric chair in Ga. -

Accept
Bratman
5.2.79

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

I agree with above

Accept
Lebovich
5/3/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

6-5-79

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered MAY 8 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Old State Prison Building		② OTHER NAMES: Farm at Milledgeville Main Building at Male Camp, State Prison/		③ date of entry: MAY 8 1979	④ county code: 09
⑤ LOCATION street & number 3 mi. (4.8 km) W of Milledgeville on GA 22		city / town Milledgeville	vicinity of GA	state Baldwin	county SE
⑦ OWNER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL (agency name)		⑧ ADMINISTRATOR: SHPO staff			
⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS <input type="checkbox"/> HABS <input type="checkbox"/> HAER <input type="checkbox"/> NHL		⑩ FUNDED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT 8th	
⑫ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input type="checkbox"/> NO		⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input type="checkbox"/> NO		⑭ ACREAGE if state who prepared form? LOCAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE ORGANIZATION <input type="checkbox"/>	
⑮ CONDITION <input type="checkbox"/> excellent <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> fair <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> ruins <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> unexcavated <input type="checkbox"/> altered <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> reconstructed <input type="checkbox"/> excavated		⑯ features: INTERIOR: <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-4 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-7 EXTERIOR: <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-5 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-8 ENVIRONS: <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-6 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-9			
⑰ ACCESS <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No Access <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		⑱ ADAPTIVE USE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		⑲ SAVED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
⑳ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE : <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE-6 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS-7 <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE-3 <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION-8 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE-4 <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS-9 <input type="checkbox"/> ART-5 <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION-10		<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING-11 <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT-26 <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION-12 <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH-27 <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY-13 <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION-14		<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 <input type="checkbox"/> LAW-16 <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE-17 <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY-18 <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC-19 <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY-20	
㉑ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:		㉒ dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:		㉓ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION	
㉔ architectural style(s):		㉕ architect:		㉖ master builder:	
㉗ landscape architect / garden designer:		㉘ interior decorator:		㉙ artist:	
㉚ artisan:		㉛ builder/contractor:		㉜ engineer:	
㉝ NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:					
㉞ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP					



HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS
DIVISION DIRECTOR

February 28, 2019

National Park Service
Attn: Alexis Abernathy
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C St, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Ms. Abernathy:

Enclosed are requests for the following listings to be removed from the National Register of Historic Places:

- Hudson-Nash House and Cemetery; Lilburn, Gwinnett County, Georgia
- Main Building at the Male Camp, State Prison Farm at Milledgeville (Old State Prison Building); Milledgeville, Baldwin County, Georgia
- Western and Atlantic Railroad Zero Milepost; Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia

Sincerely,

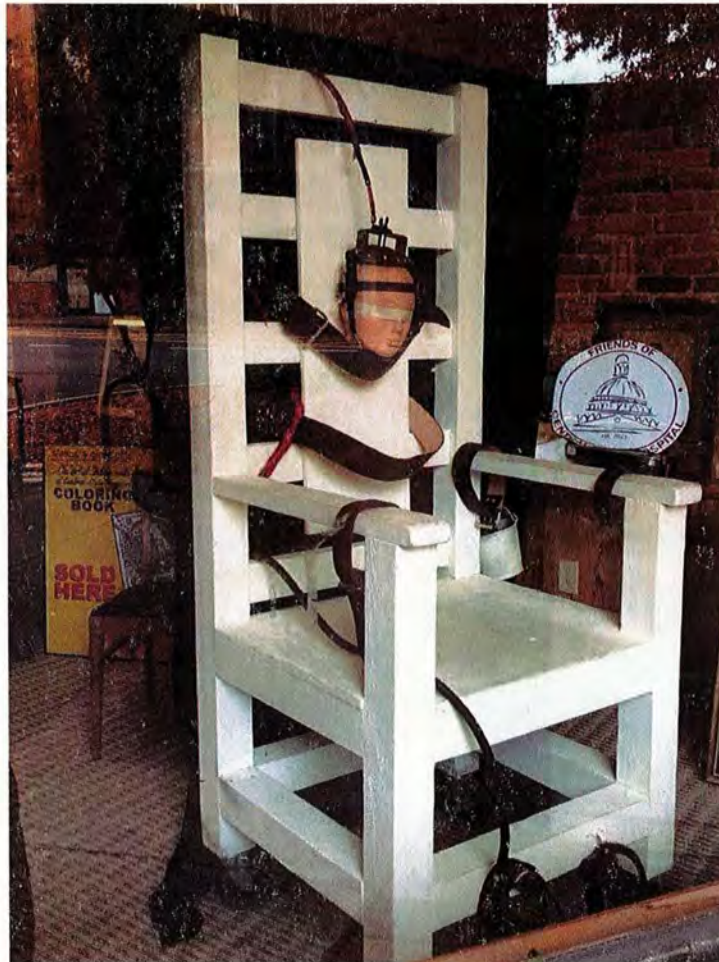
Christy Atkins
National Register Historian

Cc: Lisa Deline, NPS

https://www.unionrecorder.com/news/crews-tear-down-old-prison-in-baldwin-county/article_cf5c2900-9bfc-11e8-a222-4b634771f2a1.html

Crews tear down old prison in Baldwin County

Billy Hobbs Aug 6, 2018



The old Georgia State Prison Farm was once home to the state's first electric chair, known as 'Old Sparky' where 162 men were put to death.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga. — The old Georgia State Prison Farm was once home to the state's first electric chair where 162 men were put to death following convictions on murder charges. The two-story brick structure, erected in 1911 and closed in 1937, adjacent to the Walter B. Williams Recreation Park in Milledgeville, is being torn down for safety reasons, county officials say.

Last week, demolition crews began tearing down the old prison, which some believe should have been preserved in some way for historical purposes. Much of the building was still standing Friday, as heavy rains have delayed the demolition. Work on tearing down the remainder of the building should start back as soon as the weather gets better, according to Baldwin County Manager Carlos Tobar.

Some of the state's most notorious criminals from the era were housed at the prison. They included Howard Hinton, who at 22, became the first of 162 men to be put to death by state-ordered electrocution in the death house there in 1924.

Perhaps one of the most famous inmates to ever have been held at the prison on death row was Leo Frank. Frank, a Jewish factory superintendent whose murder conviction of a 13-year-old girl in Atlanta resulted in him being sent to the Milledgeville prison to be put to death in the electric chair, which was given the name, "Old Sparky," shortly after it was brought to the prison.

Frank was never executed. He was kidnapped from the prison and taken to the Marietta area of Cobb County where he was lynched. The abduction and hanging gained national news coverage. In 1986, the Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles posthumously pardoned him.

Edwin C. Atkins, a self-proclaimed historian of Central State Hospital whose Facebook page has more than 10,000 followers, recently filmed documentary footage at the old prison.

Atkins' great-grandfather, the late Edwin C. Atkins, served as chaplain at the prison for many years and witnessed 141 men die there by electrocution.

In a letter, dated July 30 to county commissioners, Atkins called the county's decision to demolish the prison "hasty."

Atkins had sought permission and was granted it earlier this year from Tobar and commissioners to go onto the property site and film a documentary about the old prison.

"I talked to him (Tobar) in early May," Atkins told The Union-Recorder.

Atkins said he had requested permission to film for four days on the site, but it only took three days to complete the work. With the use of a drone for aerial film footage of the old prison, the filming was completed during the second week of May.

At that time, Atkins said he knew nothing about county officials wanting to tear down the old prison.

"Three years ago, I went before the county commission to get their permission to look at the building and to take photographs of it," Atkins recalled, noting he never heard anything back on the request.

But when Tobar was hired as the new county manager, Atkins said he informed Tobar and two county commissioners that he was interested in purchasing the prison.

"I was told to just talk with the county manager about that," Atkins said. "So, the second day after he was employed and at his first meeting, I went to him and told him that I wanted to talk with him about the idea of buying the building,"

Atkins said Tobar told him he first wanted to do an analysis of all the county buildings, but that he would let him go in and do the work he wanted to do for the documentary.

"He (Tobar) never said the building was going to be torn down," Atkins said. "The building was in bad condition and we both knew that."

During the three days that filming was done for the documentary, there was no "definite" decision regarding the possible demolition, Atkins said.

A press release recently was sent out to area media outlets by Baldwin County Commission Chairman Tommy French concerning the demolition of the prison, which at one time was owned by a private company after the prison was closed.

The old prison became the property of Baldwin County on July 8, 2013, when no one purchased it during a tax sale, according to the press release.

"The new county manager visited the old state prison as part of his county building assessment on March 5, 2018," French said. "He nearly fell through the second floor and later informed the board. He contacted 2KM Architects to provide a professional assessment of the building. 2KM Architects informed the county manager two sections of the building were in danger of imminent collapse."

French also explained that evidence was uncovered at the building that showed homeless people had been living there.

"Staff has had to call the police to remove trespassers," French said. "The board believed it was important to demolish the building to protect the public and remove county liability."

French said Tobar's next step involved commissioning an architectural history report of the building and requested that 2KM Architects contact the State Office of Historical Preservation (SHPO) to determine steps necessary to demolish the building.

The commission chairman said it would have cost \$5.2 million "just to stabilize the building."

French said on April 12, the county received a proposal from Frank Taylor Enterprises, Inc. to demolish the prison in exchange for salvageable material from the old prison and surplus county equipment.

"Not one cent from the general fund was used to demolish the prison," French pointed out.

The prison was officially condemned on May 17, he said.

French also said officials with 2KM Architects had recommended that county officials complete an asbestos survey. The survey was completed June 13 by Geotechnical Environmental Consultants and was sent to Taylor Construction the following day.

The commission chairman said officials with SHPO would be notified as soon as the building has been completely demolished.

French added that SHPO will be informed of the placement of the cornerstone and that the cornerstone is now in the process of being cleaned.

"At this time, a decision has not been made on its permanent placement," French said.

Atkins said the cornerstone is what he wants to see preserved.

"I'd like to see it placed on the prison property site and a historical marker placed there, too, so we can preserve the history of Milledgeville and Baldwin County as much as possible," Atkins said. "We have to preserve our history as much as we can."